AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 10, 17, 18, 24, 30, and 34 have been amended. A complete listing of claims and status indicators is set forth below.

1-9.   (Canceled)

10.   (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a host computer;

an appliance server operably coupled to the host computer, the appliance server having

a storage memory and an execution memory;

a control operably coupled to the appliance server and to the storage memory to control

storage of programs into the storage memory, the appliance server being

adapted to <u>determine if a program is operable and to</u> signal the control to permit

the appliance server to store a <u>the</u> program in the storage memory; and

a security device operably coupled to the control, the security device being adapted to

signal the control to permit the host computer to store a program in the storage

memory, wherein the security device comprises a switch.

11.   (Original) The computer system, as set forth in claim 10, wherein the storage memory comprises a read only memory.

12.   (Original) The computer system, as set forth in claim 10, wherein the storage memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

13.   (Original) The computer system, as set forth in claim 10, wherein the storage memory comprises a flash memory.

14.   (Original) The computer system, as set forth in claim 10, wherein the execution memory comprises a random access memory.

15.   (Original) The computer system, as set forth in claim 10, wherein the execution memory comprises a volatile memory.

16.   (Canceled)

17.   (Currently Amended) A method of operating a computer system, the method comprising the acts of:

verifying a program of an appliance server, wherein the act of verifying comprises the acts

of authenticating the program and determining whether the program is operable; and

if not verified, signaling a host computer to load a replacement program into the

appliance server.

18.   (Currently Amended) The method, as set forth in claim 17, comprising the acts of:

verifying the replacement program; and

if not verified, signaling a host computer to re-load the replacement program. wherein the act of verifying comprises the act of authenticating the program.

19.   (Canceled)

20.   (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 17, wherein the act of signaling comprises the act of enabling a security switch.

21.   (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 17, wherein the act of signaling comprises the act of determining whether a security switch has enabled the host computer to load the replacement program into the appliance server.

22.   (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 17, wherein the program comprises a boot block program.

23.   (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 17, wherein the program comprises a firmware program.

24.   (Currently Amended) A method of operating a computer system, the method comprising the acts of:

    during operation of a computer executing a first program in an execution memory and

        having a copy of the first program stored in a storage memory, replacing the

        first program stored in the storage memory with a second program by loading

        the second program into the storage memory;

    verifying the second program stored in the storage memory, <u>wherein verifying comprises the</u>

        <u>acts of authenticating the second program and determining whether the second</u>

        <u>program is operable;</u> and

if not verified, reloading the first program from the execution memory into the storage

memory.

25.   (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 24, wherein the execution memory

comprises a random access memory.

26.   (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 24, wherein the execution memory

comprises a volatile memory.

27.   (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 24, wherein the storage memory

comprises a read only memory.

28.   (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 24, wherein the storage memory

comprises a non-volatile memory.

29.   (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 24, wherein the storage memory

comprises a flash memory.

30.   (Currently Amended) The method, as set forth in claim 24, <u>comprising the acts</u>

<u>of:</u>

      <u>loading a third program into memory; and</u>

      <u>verifying the third program.</u> ~~wherein the act of verifying comprises the act of~~

~~authenticating the second program.~~

31.   (Canceled)

32.   (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 24, wherein the first and second programs comprise boot block programs.

33.   (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 24, wherein the first and second programs comprise firmware programs.

34.   (Currently Amended) A method of operating a computer system, the method comprising the acts of:

loading a program into a memory over a network connection, wherein the act of loading the program comprises the act of authenticating a user directing the loading of the program;

if the network connection fails, re-establishing the network connection; and

once the network connection is re-established, re-authenticating the user, and continuing to load the program into the memory over the re-established network connection until the program has been successfully loaded.

35.   (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 34, wherein the act of loading comprises the act of flashing the program into a flash memory over the network connection.

36.   (Canceled)

37.   (Canceled)